

1 o'clock
NO. 27

For
no. 27

Chip Heath

Richard Abbeys Esq
Walthamston

ONTARIO

Wentworth Place

Nov 27th

100

3

10.32
1/2 Clock

Monday Morning
Nov. 27, 1870

My dear Friend

I do not know whether
you will consider mine a long silence
but I can assure you it has not been the
effect of forgetfulness. I was staying in
France at the time your letter arrived, and
though I soon returned home it was
only for a very few days. Besides which
I thought it would be better to wait a
short time in consequence of what
you mentioned about Mrs. Abbey.

I was not quite a stranger to your situa-
tion in that family and I should
write a eulogium on that lady's

character in particular but that I
am afraid of some unlucky accident
which might expose at the same time
my opinion and our correspondence.
Even now I tremble at what I have said
as I am ignorant whether you receive
your letters in public or whether you have
private arrangements for that purpose.

We received a letter from your
brother about a fortnight ago. So I dare say
did you. I was so extremely happy to
hear of his arrival at Naples, that I
overlooked the hardships of their wretched
voyage and even the bad spirits he wrote
in. The weather was so much against
him, joined to his spirits, which prey

on him and continually make him
worse that it would have been too
much to expect any great improvement
in his health. He mentioned that Mr
Severn was writing to Mr. Haslem and
that we should have the letter to read, as
it would give a better account of him
than he could write himself. However
we have not yet received it. When it
arrives, I will copy any material part
for you. I promised to do so before, when
I received a former letter of Mr. Severn's
which arrived while I was in London. It
was dated a day or two before their stay
at Portsmouth and said your brother
was a little better and that his spirits were

1875
M. L. W. 1875

father, which I think is a mistake.
I saw that you had
some time ago received
your last letter. By way of saying
something I began to talk about you.
Of course I did not tell her she had
been suspected as an impostor, but I
talked accordingly as if our acquaintance
had been formed on Mr. Abbey's recom-
mendation. When I read your letter I was
sorry for what I had done, so if I see her
again I mean to insist that her ears
have deceived her and that I did not
say I had heard from you but of you
from your brother. But that I expect her
to remember a word about it, or even that
either of us exists. She said she was soon

1895
May 14

